

C L A I M S

1. Dough portions control machine from flour and similar, particularly for pizza-restaurants, bakeries, etc., comprising a dough feeding hopper (1), dough extrusion means (2,3) and dough weight and dimension control means (7,8,9,10) characterized in that extrusion means (2,3) are adapted to co-operate with dough cutting means (16) and with extruded dough portion control means (16,21,26,27), said extrusion means (2,3) being adapted to produce together with said cutting means (16) and with control means (16,21,26,27) dough portions, which could be even substantially heavier than for instance 0.7 lb., interchangeability means (6) of said extrusion means (2,3) with further extrusion means being provided on the same machine structure for dough portion production, which could be even lighter than 0.7 lb., for instance within a range 0.1-0.7 lb., with the advantage to prepare with the same machine structure dough portions comprised within a range 0.1-1.5 lb. and even heavier.
2. Machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that said extrusion means (2,3) comprise a screw feeder (2) and means (3) adapted to render the machine compatible with the performances of a machine, which could produce dough portions substantially lighter than 0.7 lb., said means (3) being made of a cone having a longitudinal axis, which is substantially inclined with respect to a longitudinal development of the machine, so that said cutting means (16) could operate with the machine which produces dough portions comprised within a range 0.1-0.7 lb. and with the machine which produces dough portions comprised within a range 0.7-1.5 lb. and even heavier.
3. Machine according to Claim 2, characterized in that said means (3) are made of cone-shaped horizontal distributor, which is adapted to co-operate with dough worm support means (27).
4. Machine according to Claim 3, characterized in that said support means are made of a support (27) of dough worm until cutting means (16) are cutting said worm avoiding in such a way that dough portion, which was previously selected by means of handle (10), falls down.
5. Machine according to preceding Claims, characterized by operations in the following sequence:
 - a) control on handle (10) of a pre-selected dough portion weight;
 - b) insertion into hopper (1) of dough to be divided into portions having a pre-selected weight;
 - c) electric motor is manually starting so that screw feeder (2) could operate;
 - d) dough which leaves distributor (3) acts on paddle (7), whereby motor (11) can start;
 - e) motor (11) makes shaft (14) rotate 360°, whereby:
 - blade (16) cuts dough worm, which has a pre-selected weight;
 - square (17) rotates in direction of arrow (B) and makes support (27) fall down as well as pre-selected cutted dough worm;
 - after rotating shaft (13) 360°, a microswitch recovers rest position of said shaft (13) thanks to cam (14), support (27) recovers its rest position thanks to spring (24), which makes square (21) rotate and everything recovers its rest position until a new cycle is starting with a pre-selected weight of dough.